



General Assembly

January Session, 2001

Raised Bill No. 1197

LCO No. 3894

Referred to Committee on Labor and Public Employees

Introduced by:
(LAB)

***AN ACT AUTHORIZING USE OF AN ALTERNATE BASE PERIOD FOR
DETERMINING ELIGIBILITY FOR UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Assembly convened:

1 Section 31-230 of the general statutes is repealed and the following
2 is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 (a) An individual's benefit year shall commence with the beginning
4 of the week with respect to which [he] the individual has filed a valid
5 initiating claim and shall continue through the Saturday of the fifty-
6 first week following the week in which it commenced, provided no
7 benefit year shall end until after the end of the third complete calendar
8 quarter, plus the remainder of any uncompleted calendar week
9 [which] that began in such quarter, following the calendar quarter in
10 which it commenced, and provided further, the benefit year of [a
11 claimant] an individual who has filed a combined wage claim, as
12 described in subsection (b) of section 31-255, shall be the benefit year
13 prescribed by the law of the paying state. In no event shall a benefit
14 year be established before the termination of an existing benefit year
15 previously established under the provisions of this chapter. [The]
16 Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, the base period of

17 a benefit year shall be the first four of the five most recently completed
 18 calendar quarters prior to such benefit year, provided such quarters
 19 were not previously used to establish a prior valid benefit year and
 20 provided further, the base period with respect to a combined wage
 21 claim, as described in subsection (b) of section 31-255, shall be the base
 22 period of the paying state, except that for any individual who is
 23 eligible to receive or is receiving workers' compensation or who is
 24 properly absent from work under the terms of [his] the employer's sick
 25 leave or disability leave policy, the base period shall be the first four of
 26 the five most recently worked quarters prior to such benefit year,
 27 provided such quarters were not previously used to establish a prior
 28 valid benefit year and provided further, the last most recently worked
 29 calendar quarter is no more than twelve calendar quarters prior to the
 30 date such individual makes [his] an initiating claim. As used in this
 31 section, an initiating claim shall be deemed valid if the [claimant]
 32 individual is unemployed and meets the requirements of [subsections]
 33 subdivisions (1) and (3) of subsection (a) of section 31-235. The base
 34 period of an individual's benefit year shall include wages paid by any
 35 nonprofit organization electing reimbursement in lieu of contributions,
 36 or by the state and by any town, city or other political or governmental
 37 subdivision of or in this state or of any municipality to such person
 38 with respect to whom such employer is subject to the provisions of this
 39 chapter. With respect to weeks of unemployment beginning on or after
 40 January 1, 1978, wages for insured work [shall] include wages paid for
 41 previously uncovered services. For purposes of this section, the term
 42 "previously uncovered services" means services [(A) which] that (1)
 43 were not employment as defined in section 31-222, and were not
 44 services covered pursuant to section 31-223, at any time during the
 45 one-year period ending December 31, 1975; and [(B) which (i)] (2) (A)
 46 are agricultural labor as defined in section 31-222(a)(1)(H), or domestic
 47 service as defined in section 31-222(a) (1)(J), or [(ii)] (B) are services
 48 performed by an employee of this state or a political subdivision
 49 [thereof] of this state, as provided in section 31-222(a)(1)(C) or by an
 50 employee of a nonprofit educational institution [which] that is not an

51 institution of higher education, as provided in section 31-
52 222(a)(1)(E)(iii), except to the extent that assistance under Title II of the
53 Emergency Jobs and Unemployment Assistance Act of 1974 was paid
54 on the basis of such services.

55 (b) The base period of a benefit year for any individual who is
56 ineligible to receive benefits using the base period set forth in
57 subsection (a) of this section shall be the four most recently completed
58 calendar quarters prior to the individual's benefit year, provided such
59 quarters were not previously used to establish a prior valid benefit
60 year, except that for any such individual who is eligible to receive or is
61 receiving workers' compensation or who is properly absent from work
62 under the terms of an employer's sick leave or disability leave policy,
63 the base period shall be the four most recently worked calendar
64 quarters prior to such benefit year, provided such quarters were not
65 previously used to establish a prior valid benefit year and provided
66 further, the last most recently worked calendar quarter is not more
67 than twelve calendar quarters prior to the date such individual makes
68 the initiating claim. If the wage information for an individual's most
69 recently worked calendar quarter is unavailable to the administrator
70 from regular quarterly reports of systematically accessible wage
71 information, the administrator shall promptly contact the individual's
72 employer to obtain such wage information.

73 (c) The administrator shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the
74 provisions of chapter 54, to implement the provisions of this section.
75 Such regulations shall specify the manner and format in which the
76 administrator shall:

77 (1) Provide written notice to individuals of the potential availability
78 of the alternative base period calculation set forth in subsection (b) of
79 this section; and

80 (2) Promptly obtain wage information from an employer in order to
81 calculate the alternative base period set forth in subsection (b) of this
82 section.

LAB *Joint Favorable*